

Sept. 15 1918

The Church of God Evangel

"And when the day of Pentecost was fully come they were all with one accord in one place." Acts 1:1.
"And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance." Acts 2:4.

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BUTTER AND HONEY

System and Order in The Church, And The Members Must Stick Together.

God Is Revealing Great Things---Submission And Obedience. Great Factors Towards Final Victory.

Out of the mines of truth are being brought nuggets of great value. It is amazing to take a retrospective view of matters pertaining to the Christian religion, and the developments of the past few years.

The great avalanche is still slipping along, unnoticed by many, but surely taking possession of everything in its track. We may not be able to accurately measure the distance it has traveled during the time of observation, but it is enough to say it has been moving.

Much of the Scriptures that used to seem so dark and hard to understand are now becoming more like a primer to many. The tongues that used to be entirely out of the sermons are becoming common to those who are keeping up with the spirit of the age. The verses referring to divine healing that used to be given a spiritual meaning are loved and cherished as having a real and powerful significance.

Every verse and chapter in the Bible has a meaning that tells of God or His dealings with man, or something calculated for man's good and God's glory, and points upward and onward to the final culmination. And the beauty of it now to us is the fact that many passages are due to have their fulfillment now in our day.

In some respects this is the most fortunate time to live of any age or decade since the creation of man. The ears of many are tingling now as they hear of the marvelous occurrences. But just ahead are greater things that will supersede all that has ever been known.

And there are the Scriptures pointing to them. They stand as a statue pointing directly to our day. Many things are showing now, but there are many more to follow in quick succession. And there is no opposition great enough to stay the hand of the Lord that is directing His own affairs.

But now, while the world is in a turmoil, and trouble is brewing on every hand, is a time to have the butter and honey experience verified. I may not be able to express this, but I feel the very presence of its approach. It may be it is only the effect of the advance rays that is felt now, but if this is true it is only an evidence of something more drawing near.

In one of the prophecies of the coming of Jesus it was said that He should eat butter and honey. And if He was to eat butter and honey why should it be anything incredible if we should say His body, the Church, should eat butter and honey? "Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. Butter and honey

shall he eat, that he may know to refuse the evil, and choose the good." (Isa. 7:14, 15.)

In the use of the terms butter and honey in this connection I would not have any one to understand me to mean literal butter and honey, but these terms certainly have a meaning or they would not be used in the Bible.

Call special attention to the statement of prophecy that He was to eat butter and honey so that by doing so He would know to refuse the evil and choose the good. This would indicate something more than merely butter and honey as we naturally understand butter and honey. But if it took something, or some experience, represented by butter and honey, to enlighten and make Him able to refuse the evil and choose the good, it would seem much more necessary for us who are members of His body to have similar assistance.

These are terms frequently used in the Bible and in many instances they are only figurative and meant to represent something good. When Zophar, one of Job's friends, was showing the state and portion of the wicked he declared that the wicked "shall not see the rivers, the floods, the brooks of honey and butter." (Job 20:17.) This indicates that to the righteous shall be given rivers and floods of good things represented by butter and honey. Job himself spoke of a time when he washed his steps with butter, and the rock poured out rivers of oil. (Job 29:6.)

In giving a description of the bride of Christ Solomon says, "Thy lips, O my spouse, drop as the honeycomb: honey and milk are under thy tongue." (Cant. 4:11.) This expression is used to show her extreme goodness, and her attractiveness to Him whom she should wed. This is honey and milk, but it takes milk to make butter.

When we examine the process of making butter and honey it may describe an experience through which those will have to pass that are fortunate enough to be among the number accounted as the Bride of Christ about whom we often hear good things spoken. Butter then is a product of milk. The milk comes from the cow. The cow feeds on grass, corn and other vegetation. There are four states that exist in the production of butter. First, the food of the cow, second, the cow, then the milk and fourth the butter. Then in order to obtain the butter after the milk is drawn from the cow there is that peculiar process of dashing and beating the milk. "Surely the churning of milk bringeth forth butter." (Prov. 30:3.)

In each process of refinement there is, as it were, dross poured

off. Only a small portion of the food the cow eats is turned into milk, and then after the continued dashing and beating of the milk only a small portion of the milk becomes butter. Now for the comparison: When Jesus finds us in our sins, He takes us just as He finds us in our crude condition, then when we pass on into sanctification the "old man," "carnal mind" is left behind. Then when we are baptized with the Holy Ghost we are poured into the churn ready for the beating and dashing. This experience might be described by that concerning Jesus when He was led of the Spirit into the wilderness immediately after He received the Holy Ghost and was tempted of the devil. (Luke 8:13.)

I wish to drop a word here: If any of you are in the churn since you received the Holy Ghost, and are being dashed and beaten about roughly in any manner, just be patient and believe God to some day take you out in the form of a beautiful golden ball of butter.

But wait a moment, do not forget that the honey belongs with the butter, as our subject is butter and honey. Do you see those beautiful flowers yonder? There are the different colors and shades. What a fragrant perfume they have! But you would not eat them. They are beautiful, and give forth a pleasant odor, but you do not think of eating them. But wait a moment. Let them alone! Do you see that swarm of bees? Look out! There you are stung! But it will not kill you. You will soon get rid of the pain. Out of those beautiful flowers those stinging bees extract the honey that you like so well. They take it and deposit it in a beautiful little cell, many of the cells together are called "honeycomb." Then in due time the honey is on the table with the butter.

Now for the comparison: See those shining faces. Yes, they are real Christians and shine and shout and live the true Christian lives that they should and walk worthy of the vocation wherein they are called. But along come the stingers, the little live workers, and if you interfere with their work you will get stung. Thus many precious souls have been stung almost to death because they interfered with the work of the workers that were working together for their good. (Rom. 8:28.) But these beautiful Christians ought to be submissive to the little workers while they are busily engaged in extracting the honey, and smile through their tears and exclaim with dear old Job, "But he (God) knoweth the way that I take: when he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold." (Job 23:10.) And the honey part of those beautiful shining Christians is taken and deposited in those beautiful cells of the honey comb and sealed over to keep.

Now hear a further description of the bride of Christ: "A garden inclosed is my sister, my spouse; a spring shut up, a fountain sealed." (Cant. 4:12.) This follows immediately after the honey and milk experience given

above. Along with this sealing comes the New Testament statement as proof that we are on safe footing in our comparison for Paul says, "And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption." (Eph. 4:30.) And this sealing takes place sometime after one has been baptized with the Holy Ghost, and when it is possible to grieve Him if you interfere with His work of extracting the honey out of the beautiful flowery Christian that you are.

I do not think I am deceived when I say I think I feel the butter and honey experience gradually creeping into the more advanced saints and members of the great Church of God. If there is any trouble caused it is by those who are less spiritual. Those who are sealed up in the honey comb or dashed and beaten about and made into butter will not cause any trouble unless their beautiful lives are a constant condemnation to those less spiritual. And it is those that are not sealed up in the honeycomb or dashed around and made into butter that can more readily see the faults of others and speak about them in a censorious manner.

Now is the time when there is a special need for system and order in the Church, and the members must stick together. While the milk is yet milk it can be jostled about and much of it wasted. But when it is made into butter how readily it sticks together. Get the honey sealed up in the honeycomb and how readily it sticks together. God is revealing great things to us now, and I know you are seeing more in this than I am expressing.

And over in this butter and honey experience we will know to refuse the evil and choose the good when the false Christs and false prophets arise and show such great signs and wonders that many will be fascinated by them and led astray. "For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall show great signs and wonders; insomuch that if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect." (Math. 24:24.) Then don't interfere with the work of the Holy Ghost, but let Him seal you up in the honey comb so you may be truly kept. (John 10:27-29.)

How true it is that submission and obedience are great factors toward final victory. Those who submit and obey the system and order are the very ones that are making great gains in spirituality. To this class is also given the sweetness of the greater revelations. And they do not go about and boast of their great revelations and say the Lord has showed them so and so, but they keep their eyes on the beautiful picture, say but little about it, and humbly submit to the sealing up in the honeycomb.

I hardly know how to express myself here, but I fancy I see the members of the Church coming closer and closer together, each in his little honeycomb cell, and the cells separated only by a thin partition, but take it as a whole, it is a big bunch of

honey. The butter reminds me of the smooth oily working of the beautiful system and order where there is not enough friction to make a noise by screeching or grumbling. The financial system will be arranged, the pastors in their places, the overseers in perfect order, the members satisfied, and nobody to screech around and grumble and complain and fuss around and cause trouble.

Now get a picture: "And when the queen of Sheba had seen all Solomon's wisdom, and the house that he had built, and the meat of his table, and the sitting of his servants, and the attendance of his ministers, and their apparel, and his cupbearers, and his ascent by which he went up unto the house of the Lord; there was no more spirit in her. And she said to the king, It was a true report that I heard in mine own land of thy acts and of thy wisdom. Howbeit I believed not the words, until I came, and mine eyes had seen it: And behold, the half was not told me: thy wisdom and prosperity exceedeth the fame which I heard. Happy are thy men, happy are these thy servants, which stand continually before thee, and that hear thy wisdom. Blessed be the Lord thy God, which delighted in thee, to set thee on the throne of Israel: because the Lord loved Israel forever, therefore made he thee king, to do judgment and justice." (1 Kings 10:7-9.)

And this is a type or picture of the great Church of God as it shines forth in these last days. "This is the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes," (Math. 21:42.) for "behold a greater than Solomon is here." (Luke 11:31.)

There is a spirit of submission among our people that does not exist in any others. They are ready to submit and bow down to anything that Jesus says. They are happy to serve Him. Just let Him say, "ye ought to wash one another's feet (John 13:14.) and they are down and at it. Just let Him say they ought to pay tithes (Luk 11:42.) and they are right at it. And it is the same with any and everything Jesus says.

It will be that way with the entire system of government. The only thing we want is to just know what it is and we are all submissive and ready to perform our part of it with joy and gladness. Our people do not pout and perform their duties reluctantly and drag along and criticize and tongue lash those in authority. They are happy to obey their Commander—Jesus. And under His order are the overseers to oversee the work.

Solomon had 3,600 overseers (2 Chron. 2:2) and a greater than Solomon may have more.

In this system—Christ's government—there is no galling yoke.

Indeed, there is a yoke, for Jesus says, "Take my yoke upon you," and this indicates service in His great system, but He says again, "My yoke is easy." (Math. 11:29, 30.) Then the service in His great Church is pleasant and His servants are happy in His wonderful service.

That there are officers and

Continued on page 4.

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Help us make the Evangel a medium of information as well as a spiritual blessing.

Address all communications relating to the paper, and make all drafts, checks, express and postal orders payable to A. J. TOMLINSON, 2524 Gaut street, Cleveland, Tenn.

Thirteenth Annual Assembly at Harriman, Tenn., Nov. 1-6.

All that have not sent in their orders for Sunday School literature for next quarter should do so at once.

The government is sending every church clerk and minister a card to fill, sign and mail to Washington. Hope every one will attend to this promptly as it is important. You should always designate it, "Church of God with headquarters at Cleveland, Tenn."

As the time for the Assembly is approaching I wish to call attention to a matter of interest and importance: The Assembly building is not yet paid for, and we have not asked for any special help for it for a year or more, but now feel we should make an effort at the Assembly to lift the entire debt of about fifteen hundred dollars. Want to request that every one that attends the Assembly this year bring a dollar for that special purpose, and those who do not come send your dollar either by mail beforehand or by a friend to the Assembly. This amount is very small, only one dollar, but it will meet the need if faithfully given.

In order to increase the circulation of the Evangel and thus get the message into many new homes and before many more people, I wish to make a kind and loving appeal to every subscriber and lover of the little white-winged messenger, to please speak to your friends and neighbors about subscribing, and earnestly and kindly solicit their subscription. Please do your best to get at least one subscriber for a year. Although you may succeed in getting one or two for three or six months, please do not stop and rest till you have been successful in securing one for a year. Let us institute a special campaign this fall and run the subscription list up to ten thousand yet before the Assembly. This will be possible, and easily accomplished if all will work at it and get at least one new subscriber. Try it and God bless you all.

Report.

Dear Brother Tomlinson:

We have just closed a meeting at Dogwood, Tenn. where seven received the Holy Ghost, several were saved and sanctified and a number healed by the mighty power of God.

Pray for these dear ones who have just started in the way that they may be examples to others. Pray for me that I may stay humble at Jesus' feet.

Your brother in Christ,
R. E. Hamilton.

GOD'S PREACHER AND GOD'S CHURCH

D. S. Annis.

A sower goes forth into a town where there is division there are several denominations, each claiming to be bound for heaven, but will not worship with the members of the other sects; and if they hear a rumor about one of the members of the other denominations they break the news as a secret (?) to every one they meet. They are built up some way, they don't know just how. They take what their Conferences and Assemblies have decided for them regardless of what they think about it themselves; the creeds and doctrines set forth by those in authority must stand whether the Bible does or not.

The sower is a man who would rather please God than to have the praise of men, so he first begins to teach the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins and insist that all who wish to be baptized bring forth fruit meet for repentance. He knows that a house built without a solid foundation cannot stand long, and he knows that people who indulge in jesting, by-words, unclean conversation, filthy habits such as tobacco and anything else that is filthy, are still in their sins; therefore he wants people to put away their sins before being baptized. When conditions are met he baptizes them in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

But this preacher tells them that this experience is only preparatory to that which is to come (instead of saying as many preachers do that the Holy Spirit has now come in to dwell.) He does not leave them here and tell them that they cannot live without committing sin. He shows them plainly that they who commit sin have not a single promise of the kingdom of heaven. He shows them, however, that as long as the seed that Satan planted when he through Eve caused Adam to fall, remains in their hearts, they will have a warfare with this sin principal which is liable to lead them into sin. Then he further explains how Jesus came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil. People begin to get their eyes open and at once realize the deception that is being practiced by false teachers.

Just as soon as people see there is something better for them they begin seeking, and of course the Lord does not keep them waiting long; when they are ready and willing to crucify all lust of the flesh and be perfectly obedient to Him He destroys the body of sin; then their understanding is opened up and they realize the need of the abiding Comforter. The Lord is not slack concerning His promises so they are baptized with the Holy Ghost.

These dear people would have been enjoying these experiences long before, had not the truth been covered by their leaders; they would not enter themselves, neither would they let others. Most people do not read the Bible for themselves; they believe what the preacher says be that truth or falsehood.

God has established a Church and the devil is mad. He sends forth his angels of light and tries to tear it down. But the little band of redeemed ones are bound together by love, and when they see one of them being led away by Satan they don't give him a kick, but they go to him in all

love and meekness and exhort him to come back to Christ.

The preacher urges that all love one another. They not only love one another but they love those who hate and persecute them. They are not told that to kill one man is murder but to go out and kill men by the wholesale is no sin.

All members decide that they do not want to stop where they are, so they all pray earnestly that the Lord will place the gifts of the Spirit in the church. They are not jealous of one another, whatever pleases God, pleases them; so the Lord distributes the gifts as it pleases Him.

The people in the church do not have to be spurred up so much about the salvation of others; love predominates, and the desire to see others who have been deceived come into this glorious light is so great that every possible effort is put forth in their behalf. They are bound together and to Christ so closely by the chord of love that the things of the world have no attraction for them; the kingdom of God is set up in their hearts; they know they have a better home on the other side and their highest ambition is to see others who have been deceived brought into the way that leads to everlasting life.

Friends, this is the Lord's Church. Let us not come behind in any good gift.

Gone To Be With Jesus.

On Aug. 29, 1917, Sister Lula G. Haynes, wife of M. S. Haynes and mother of Geneva, Mary, and Raymond, departed this life to be with Jesus, little Clyde and many other loved ones gone on before.

July 31, Brother Haynes and family left Kentwood in their car to go to the northern part of Louisiana to hold several meetings. They arrived at Delhi Aug 1, spent the night there and Thursday they motored to Dunn, or near there, where they were to hold the first meeting.

Aug. 15, I went over on the train to be with them in the latter part of the meeting there, and go on to Rayville where the next meeting was to have been conducted.

But on the morning of Aug. 17, Sister Haynes was taken with fever and was unable to go to service that night. Saturday she seemed to be growing weaker. So early Sunday morning Brother Haynes asked me to bring her home on the train, stating that he and the children would finish the meeting (which was to close Sunday night) and start home Monday. Sister Haynes and I arrived here Sunday night and she stayed in our home until Aug. 25 when she was carried to her home.

I was with Sister Haynes during all of her sickness and can say that she was faithful even unto death. The last morning she was with us, we were there at her home and she prayed with us. Brother Haynes asked her several questions such as these: "Lula, do you want any medicine?" She answered: "No." "Are you glad that you have never taken any?" She replied: "Indeed I am." "Do you want me and the children to keep on in the fight?" She said: "Yes, a little while longer." "Is the Lord here, Lula?" To this she answered: "All round about."

Her last words were: "Praise His name!" She closed her eyes, crossed her hands and went to sleep in Jesus without a pain or struggle.

As she was dying there was crying, dancing and talking in tongues. Then at the church it

was wonderful how God poured out His Spirit and gave Brother Haynes and the other saints victory.

Sister Haynes was a soul winner; she has brought many souls to Christ in Alabama, Tennessee, Mississippi and Louisiana. She was loved by both saints and sinners. She could say with the Apostle Paul: "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness which the Lord, the righteous Judge, shall give me at that day; and not to me only, but unto all them also that love His appearing."

Our dear Sister Haynes will be missed in the home by her loved ones, and at the services by her many friends, but we weep not as those who have no hope.

Bertha Hilbun,
Kentwood,
La.

Report.

Our pastor, S. W. Latimer, and Brother Henry Murphy closed a meeting at Toonigh, Ga., Aug. 26. The battle was a hard one, but after the Word (which is sharper than a two edged sword) was preached a few days the enemy began to lose ground, and by the time the meeting closed he had lost some valuable soldiers. Some were saved and sanctified, three received the Holy Ghost and backsliders were reclaimed. Four were added to the church and seven were baptized in water.

The church was greatly blessed and the outlook for the progress of the church is much more encouraging than before the meeting began.

Brother and Sister Summers of Augusta, Ga. were with us during the last few days of the meeting.

The meeting closed with twenty six seekers at the altar. Please help us pray that these hungry hearts may be satisfied with corn, wine, and oil.

Your brother,
Louis Purcell.

Sparta, Tenn.

I want to praise the Lord for saving me and sanctifying me wholly.

I was converted once before but the church to which I belonged did not feed its members and encourage them very much so I backslid and became worse than ever before. According to Scripture the last stage of such a one is worse than the first.

It is hard for such characters to get back to God, at least it took a lot of praying for me to get back again. When I did get saved I had to go and straighten up my past life, and make crooked paths straight.

I love the Lord and whatever he tells me to do I shall do it and ask Him no questions.

I want the saints to pray that I may receive the Holy Ghost.

Your brother in Christ,
Plumer Henry.

Wallhalla, S. C.

Dear Brother Tomlinson:

I am praising God for salvation. Oh, bless His sweet name!

Before I was converted the Lord permitted me to be afflicted inasmuch that I was very near death's door. Before me all was darkness; if I had died I should have been lost. I told the Lord if He would spare me I would serve Him. Praise His name, He spared my life, and today I am saved, sanctified and filled with the Holy Ghost. I mean by His grace to do His will.

Your sister under the blood,
Mary Green.

Arley, Ala.

Dear Brother Tomlinson and Evangel Readers:

The Helicon meeting is now in the past, but the memory of it will be fresh in our minds for many days to come, because of the wonderful blessings of God.

God was with us from the beginning to the close. Brother Ellis seemed at his best, and the devil was stirred. Snuff and lodges were given up and old things of long standing confessed out. False shepherds roared, but God honored His Word and five were filled with the Holy Ghost, several were saved and sanctified, six were added to the Church of God and five baptized in water. Opposers to the holiness were convinced of the truth and we are expecting more to follow.

Brother Ellis and Otis are fighting the battle this week at Old Hurricane Church in Cleburne Co. God bless and keep them safe in that wicked place! Pray much for them.

One of the least in His vineyard,

Ida McCoy.

Elizabethton, Tenn.

To all the Evangel Readers—Greeting in the Name of the Lord:

We are lifting up the banner of the Lord at depots and on street corners. We are holding up to all the precious name of our coming King. Glory to God! We must all be ready to say, "Even so, come now, Lord Jesus."

We were urged to hold two services at the same place here in Elizabethton. There are many hungry souls here. They are anxious for a meeting, but we must leave today as we are due next Saturday in Washington, D. C. This fulfills a prophecy given over ten years ago. I would like to preach from our banner to the president of our nation if the Lord should so order.

All that we have on our banner is from heaven. (Saint John 3:27.) I desire that all of God's family pray that we may set it up in His name. (Psalms 20:5, 60:4) and that Brother Robert Edney may make music to the glory of God on one of the stringed instruments mentioned by King David.

Your brother in the army of the Lord,

W. G. Anderson.

Lenoir City, Tenn.

Dear Brother Tomlinson:

I sought this salvation for about one year; at last God poured out His Spirit upon me, saved, sanctified and filled me with the Holy Ghost.

My niece who came from California to visit me, had never been in a holiness meeting until she came here, but she had only been in two services until she saw the reality in this wonderful experience. She received the Holy Ghost when she first asked for Him while we were in the room praying. We went to services that night and two others received the Holy Ghost.

Your sister in Christ,
Mrs. W. J. Roberts.

Notice.

We desire to notify the readers of the Evangel that one Brake Bowker who represents himself as a minister of the Church of God is not a member of the Church of God.

GEO. T. Brouayer.

In The Furnace of Affliction

SAM C. PERRY

No matter what our stage of grace, afflictions, trials, tribulations and persecutions seem to be the common lot of God's people.

Saint Paul declares that God "Scourges every son whom He receives." Saint James says "count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations, knowing that the trying of your faith worketh patience," and further says "let patience have her perfect work," and "that ye may be perfect and entire wanting nothing."

We like the idea of purity, and perfection, we shout at the thought of advancing and going forward with God, but the way of death, afflictions, tribulations, etc., are very repulsive to most of us. We have not learned to spell disappointment with an "H" HIS-APPOINTMENT. We don't like to have our plans upset. It's hard for us to rejoice in pain and privations. We can't see the use of self-denial. Such a practice is hard to get used to.

We have difficulty in seeing God unless we have a clear sky. That is we can't see Him through adversity, disappointment and hardships. If we shout our surroundings must be favorable, if we rejoice it is largely because of physical comfort or blessings. Perhaps we may reach a point of crucifixion or surrender where certain difficulties or trials will remove, we shall profit by the lessons learned. God will not allow scourging to continue if there is no more profit to be received therefrom. Parents chastise only until the lesson is learned. Our Heavenly Father knows better when it is enough and when to let up, or to lift the chastising rod.

We are not always able to know at once why the rod is permitted to fall upon us, but if we are submissive and humble under the mighty hand of our God we shall not fail to see wherein we are benefitted.

God has various ways of correcting His children, sometimes they are tried on financial lines, sometimes the physical body is afflicted, and sometimes with false brethren and many other ways, but all work to the perfecting of our faith in Him, and no matter from what quarter our crucifixion arises, we should be able to hold on unwaveringly to our conquering King, feeling that "all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose."

What does it matter whether or not we know the "whys" and "wherefores" of the plans and purposes of our God? We should be able to commit all into His hands and trust Him to work out our life according to the counsels of His own will. It may be that the reason some do not make greater progress is just here. God must break our will and be assured that He will accomplish it with as little inconvenience to us as possible, but it must be done. Then is it not reason to suppose that the quicker we submit and yield to Him on all lines the easier for us?

Still we will not deny the fact that through some extraordinary trials and afflictions God may bring some of His children into a place of unusual closeness to Himself. Afflictions or trials are not necessarily indicative of

God's displeasure, or of lack of spirituality. Saints of very deep spirituality are often great sufferers from a variety of severe ordeals.

Then that which should always hold us up through every shade of experience, whether pleasant or unpleasant, is our unwavering faith in God's infallible word.

We are justified by faith, cleansed by faith, and through our faith in His promise we are enabled to obey and receive the Holy Ghost, the Comforter. Through our faith we have healing for the body, grace to stand, power to overcome, and illumination in the Word of God. Through that faith which shall finally keep us to the end, we shall be translated into the coming glory.

That faith which is the course of our beginning in Christ must be perfected until the day of Jesus Christ. All of the surroundings of our heavenly journey whether pleasant or unpleasant are needed to perfect and develop that faith by which we are finally to make it safely into the everlasting inheritance of the saints. Then we should be as cheerful and thankful in one situation as in another, only making sure we are always in His will.

Gastonia, N. C.

Dear Brother Tomlinson:

I am glad to tell you that I still have the victory through our blessed Savior.

Brother E. C. Smith and I have just closed a meeting of three weeks here in Gastonia. The Lord was with us from the very beginning. There was a goodly number saved, seven sanctified and three filled with the Holy Ghost. Among the number was Brother J. W. Walker, who was a backslider, but like the prodigal son he returned home, was reclaimed and restored to the Church of God. There was much rejoicing when the prodigal came. Luke 15:24.

The last day of the meeting was a time of great rejoicing. At the eleven o'clock service the church was dedicated and the Lord certainly did bless the people. At the night service we administered the Lord's Supper and washed the saints' feet. Twelve were added to the church.

Brother E. C. Smith will have his next meeting at McAdenville, N. C. Any one desiring to write him can address him at that place.

Your brother,
C. C. Walker.

Lake Park, Ga.

Dear Evangel Friends:

I am praising the Lord for what He is to me—for saving me from sin and a devil's hell. He has taken the desire of sin out of my heart.

But the devil is after me in many ways, however, I am glad I don't have to listen to him.

I am praying that I may be made a better man, and glorify God.

I am not a member of the Church of God but I expect to be. I've known it to be the right way for several years.

Please ask the Lord to give me the Holy Ghost and heal me of indigestion.

G. S. Scott, Jr.

Watch.

By J. A. Giddens.

"What I say unto you I say unto all, Watch." "Take heed watch and pray for ye know not when the time is." Mark 13:37, 33.

I am a little surprised at the credulity of our people in being so carried away with the article, "God's fig tree budding," by F. J. Ewart. As to the fact of Jews being restored to their own land, and the coming of our Lord being near at hand, we steadfastly believe, but as to assigning a date, can not be backed up by Word of God.

Far back in the history we find that such speculations have been going on, dates set, and many earnest souls deceived; in some instances some have been dressed for the occasion, only to be disappointed. More than likely many have cast away their confidence because of such teaching. Let us leave the setting of the dates to such teachers, as the late Pastor Russell.

When we have as plain statements as we have on this subject in the Word of God, I can not understand why we should accept something as a true prophecy that does not tally with the Word of God. "Ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh." One of the reasons He gives for not revealing this to us is, that it might stimulate to watchfulness.

Let us have another reference from the Word: "When they therefore were come together, they asked of Him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time, restore again the kingdom to Israel? he said unto them. It is not for you to know the times or the seasons which the Father hath put in His own power." Acts 1:6-7. I think it dangerous to pry into those things, which He plainly tells us we are not to know. We are not left in darkness, however, concerning the matter. It has pleased God to tell us about the purpose of, and also the manner of His coming and has given us certain signs which are appearing which remind us that the time is near at hand.

"September" seems to be a popular date. Less than ten years ago a prophecy was given out concerning the destruction of Tampa; immediately some one went to work and fixed up a date which was "September" of the same year. It did not come to pass, but it brought great reproach upon our people, and I think, has been a hindrance to the work here ever since. If much stress is put upon "September," or even "this year," being the time for the coming of our Lord, some zealous ones will be incorporating it in their preaching.

The concluding incident given in the article "a voice from the dead," is one of the most vague and unsatisfactory things I ever read; it sounds like an old Catholic legend, of which there are thousands, and for which we have no use, because "we have a more sure word of prophecy." Trying to represent Italy as a virgin is sufficient (it seems to me) to convince one, that it is not a true prophecy. For centuries Italy has been the seat of "the mother of harlots."

Let us listen to the Word of God again. "In the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom which shall not be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people," (no not to the Latin people; nor to any others, "but

it shall break in pieces, and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever." Dan. 2:44. It will be the virgin kingdom, and not "Italy," as the Catholics would have us believe. "To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this Word it is because there is no light in them." Isaiah 8:20.

DID Y U THINK TO PRAY

Perry W. Hadsock.

If there was ever a time in the world when the enemy of our souls put forth every possible effort to keep God's children from praying, it is surely now. Observation teaches us this as well as actual experience.

When you arise in the morning to go forth to meet your obligations, do you think to pray? or, are you so carried away with the surroundings and business prospects that you leave your room without communing with your daily Guide?

In the good Book we see how God so wonderfully dealt with and led those who prayed often unto Him. Among such characters we will mention Daniel, and David. "Evening, and morning and at noon, will I pray, and cry aloud; and he shall hear my voice." (Psalm 55:17.)

It is through the avenue of prayer that we are led by God. Prayer is the key to mercy's door. It is not so much what we say audibly, but the attitude of our hearts toward God counts.

I feel confident that if we pray as we should we will find no time to dabble in the things of the world, speaking evil of people etc.

When you heard of some one in trouble, did you think to pray for them? And when your soul was sorrowful on account of a falsehood being circulated about you, did you think to pray and ask God to forgive the guilty ones?

When it seemed that your business was going to pieces and the future looked dark, did you think to pray and commit your way unto the Lord so that He could work His will in you?

When you started to worship, did you think to pray? Did you ask God's guidance in song, in prayer, in testimony, in giving out the Word?

May God awaken the unawakened to see the need of more praying, earnest praying, constant praying. We cannot win this battle except by keeping in close touch with our Captain. We can win if we continue in prayer and obey the orders as we receive them. Let us pray more. Romans 12:12. Col. 4:2.

Whiteside, Tenn.

Dear Editor and Evangel Family:

I am a blind man, deaf in one ear, fifty-seven years of age.

About ten years ago I was a preacher in the M. E. Church South. But when I came to myself I realized that I needed something more from God. I went to a holiness meeting in Cole City, Ga. and went home and told my wife that the experience of sanctification was just what we needed, and that I intended to obtain it. So I went over on the creek bank with my heart open for the blessings of God. I had been there but a short time when I found myself shouting, leaping and praising God. I ran to the house and told my wife I was sanctified.

In a short time a brother came along and told me I ought to seek

God for the baptism with the Holy Ghost. The devil proceeded to inform me about such experience, but after a while the Spirit showed me that this was experience that I and everybody else needed. I said "If that is the case I must have it." So began fasting and praying and continued ten days.

Shortly after, my wife and I went over to Cole City to a meeting and on our way back home we stopped at a brother's yard and they began to sing; and as they sang the power fell upon me and I began to dance and praise God. We all went in the house and the service continued until about midnight. The room was full of the glory of God. Several were converted and wife and I were baptized with the Holy Ghost and both spoke with other tongues as the Spirit gave utterance which is the Bible evidence of the baptism.

We went home and began to lay down our bad habits, cleansing ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh. We lived clean about three years.

But Satan overcame me one day and caused me to take up two or three things that I had left off. Afterward, once when we were praying for a sick child and could get no victory, I realized that these things were in the way; so I dropped them like a hot iron and the Lord healed our child. But I had a hard time getting the power back that I had once had. I prayed and fasted at intervals for three years. One day I was on the bank of the creek in awful soul agony when the power fell on me and I began speaking in tongues.

Be careful, friends; if you make a vow to the living God you had better pay it. Profit by my sad experience. I came very near being lost; but I am so glad I did not sin against the Holy Ghost.

After I felt the blessing and favor of God again I began trying my best to live close to God. I mean to go through by His help.

God has been our healer for about eleven years; we have had no doctor and not as much medicine as you could hold on the point of a pin.

Dearly beloved, we have to watch and pray; Satan is shooting the biggest gun he has ever shot; he is preaching the biggest sermons he has ever preached. He is determined to drag us down to hell. We must watch and pray.

May God be with you all and may we meet in mansions above. Your brother in Christ,
W. Z. McHone.

Gone To Be With Jesus.

Our dearly beloved Brother Willie Dunaway, departed this life Sept. 5, 1917, at the age of twenty-eight years. Brother Willie was saved, sanctified and filled with the Holy Ghost. He became a member of the Church of God in May, 1916, and lived true and loyal to the Church and died in the faith, fully trusting God for both soul and body.

He was loved by all who knew him and his daily life convinced many that his was the true religion.

We miss our brother sadly, but we mourn not as those who have no hope.

Delia Brouayer.

A Request.

I desire the earnest prayers of God's people that I may be healed of neuralgia in my face, also of other troubles. I know God can heal. Please pray for my boys also that they may be saved and not have to go to war.

Yours looking for the coming of the Savior,
Mrs. Joe Clarke.

Ridgedale, Tenn.

Dear Evangel Friends:

I have just returned from another trip through the "field." I was in South Pittsburg, Tenn., something over one week. The people were somewhat divided but the Lord drew them together. We set the Church of God in order with nine good, spiritual members. The power of God was manifested in speaking with tongues as the Spirit gave utterance, praises, dancing, handling fire etc.

From South Pittsburg we went to Jasper, Tenn., where we had conducted a revival just a few weeks before.

On Sunday we met on the bank of the river to have the baptismal service and set the church in order. The people carried their dinners, intending after the baptizing to observe the Lord's Supper and wash the saints feet, but the rain prevented this, and we were obliged to postpone that part of the service until the night service which we had at a brother's home.

The night service was good. The saints were blessed and many seemed interested and requested prayer.

I would be glad for some preacher who knows the Scripture to stop at South Pittsburg as often as possible.

I intend to return to Middle Tennessee for the rest of the season. I desire your prayers that God will stand by and uphold me by His mighty power.

Your brother,
J. F. Dover.

Resaca, Ga.

Dear Brother Tomlinson:

We are bound to give thanks to God for His goodness to us in keeping us from sin and the pollutions of the world. We praise Him for the blood that saves and sanctifies, and for the Holy Ghost who abides.

We have been living down here among this people about nineteen months, and we are glad to say that some have confidence in the God we serve.

They have been having Methodist, Baptist, and Gospel Trumpet meetings and now they are inquiring when we shall have a meeting. They seem anxious for some Pentecostal meetings.

We haven't promised any yet but we have been wondering if we could get M. S. Lemons, F. J. Lee or H. L. Trim to come sometime in October. We will pay the minister's railroad expenses. I would like to hear from anyone of these brethren.

We enjoy reading the Evangel with its testimonies from the saints scattered abroad. We, too, are pressing toward the mark.

L. B. Mosteller.

Valdosta, Ga.

Dear Brother Tomlinson:

I am praising Jesus today for the real love of God that is continually burning in my soul. I truly thank God for the Church whose Founder and Head is Christ. Bless His precious name!

I was down at Jasper, Fla. in August. The brother who is holding the band together there is much impressed with the teachings of the Church, and he and all the saints are anxious to unite with the Church.

I wrote Brother Barr about the matter.

The services were good while we were at Jasper. Brother Harris' little boy who had whooping-cough and would sometimes almost lose his breath, was

marvelously healed. "They shall lay hands on the sick and they shall recover." Praise the Lord! Your brother in Christ,
Wm Hudson.

THE BABE OF BETHLEHEM

By Mrs. Annie Lord.

Do you ever think as you march along,

As you hurry over the way,
Of a little child who was born one night,
And in a manger lay?

You look for the best that money can buy,
And think it very small;
But how would you feel if your little bed

Had been a cattle's stall?

Yet the grandest man that ever lived

Was born that very way;

The softest thing His mother found

Was only a bundle of hay.

He's coming again, that little babe,

Who in the manger lay;

He's coming again, but not to sleep,

Upon, "A bundle of hay."

The graves will open, the dead arise,

Upon that glorious day,

And sad 'twill be for the souls that are lost,

They will have to stay away.

For swift as the lightning, from East to West,

Our Savior is sure to come,

And gather the ones who have lived the life,

And carry them safely home.

But only a few will Jesus take,

I read in the Word today;

And many a poor lost soul will cry

In hell, the Word doth say.

He told His children to ready be,

"I'll come and take you home;"

But many a soul will be lost you see,

And with Jesus can never roam.

They mocked and scoffed at the little babe,

Who was born upon the hay,

The one who came to forgive their sins,

And take them all away.

He's coming again, that little babe,

Who in the manger lay;

You'd better be ready, He's coming soon,

Perhaps He'll come today.

Resaca, Ga.

Dear Brother Tomlinson:

I am hungry to praise God for His goodness to me, and to tell of His wonderful salvation that keeps free from sin and condemnation and gives joy and peace within.

I was sorely afflicted with fever last spring; and after I had suffered about six weeks and many prayers had been offered, it seemed that I was no better until we sent a request to Cleveland for prayer, then I was almost instantly healed.

This has been the best year of my life. The Spirit speaks in other tongues and we are rejoicing in the Lord for He hath been mindful of us and blessed us with many good blessings.

A sister,

Mrs. Mary Mosteller.

Hiawassee, Va.

Dear Editor and Evangel Family:

Brother Arthur Fortner has just closed a ten days meeting at this place. We are glad to report victory. Larger crowds than has ever attended church at this place, came to this meeting.

During the meeting the mighty power of God was manifested in different ways. Eleven were saved and some were sanctified and filled with the Holy Ghost. Five were baptized in water, and eleven were added to the church.

Brother Fortner did not fail to declare the whole council of God, and he accomplished a great deal of good. Brother W. A. Turner, his wife and daughter were appreciated helpers in the meeting.

Pray for this little band of the Lord's followers that we all may be true and have on the "wedding garment" when Jesus comes.

Yours looking for Jesus,
S. A. Adkins.

BUTTER AND HONEY

Continued from first page.

rulers in the Lord's great system is beyond question, but all is peace and love, and they are not selfish, bigoted, vigorous rulers and lords over God's heritage. (1 Peter 5:3.) But while this is true the other Scriptures are equally true where they say, "Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves; for they watch for your souls." (Heb. 13:17.) "Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honor." (1 Tim. 5:17.)

But while there are rulers and subjects, and certain rules to obey, the butter and honey experience will remove all harshness and grating, galling bondage, and the whole system will roll on smoothly and the great army of laborers together (1 Cor. 3:9.) will move joyfully on and march through the land triumphantly. "Thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord." (1 Cor. 15:58.) Following the order and system given in the Bible we are bound to win. Hallelujah!

Gone to Live With Jesus.

Little Bertie Mae, five-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Will Rich went to heaven Aug. 31, 1917. She was a sweet child and loved by all.

God alone can comfort the parents and bind up their broken hearts. May they be drawn closer to Him to serve Him in spirit and in truth is the prayer of

One who loved Bertie.

Clifty, Ky.

Dear Brother Tomlinson:

I praise God for salvation and for physical health. The Church was set in order here July 28, 1917, with thirty-five members. I want the prayers of the saints that we may be able to do a great work for God. I mean to do the will of God.

Ida McGehee.

Mayworth, N. C.

Dear Brother Tomlinson:

I want to sound a note of praise to God for His goodness to me. He has saved, sanctified and filled me with the Holy Ghost.

I have been divinely healed and delivered from a drug demon that bound me for fifteen years.

I am determined to press on to mansions above.

Please pray for me.

Your brother,
J. H. Shipman.

Alabama City, Ala.

Dear Brother Tomlinson and all the Saints:

I am so glad I can report victory through the precious blood of Jesus. I am saved and sanctified and the Holy Ghost abides.

Brother Gann has just closed the greatest revival that has been held in Alabama City since the year 1910.

Eighteen received the Holy Ghost, the same number were baptized in water and thirteen were added to the Church of God. Among this number was a preacher, Brother Beavers, also his wife. How we praise God for them!

We praise the Lord for our pastor and his wife, Brother and Sister Gann. They have been a blessing to Alabama City and we all love them.

Brother Payne was with us one night. We are always glad to have him with us; he gives out the Word. If there ever was a time when we need to know the Word of God, it is now.

Your sister in Jesus,
Ida Freeman.

Gunton Park, Va.

Dear Brother Tomlinson:

I am glad to say I am still in the way of holiness, moving on. There is no time to idle away, just time to make the run.

I praise the Lord for a desire in my heart to go all the way regardless of the cost. The way may not be plain to some but it is plain to me.

I love the Church of God. She is coming to the front. It seems that I can hear Isaiah say: "Arise, shine, for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee." Glory to God!

Brother McLain and wife have been a great deal of help to us. We hope they will be with us another year.

Pray for us that we may ever keep low and humble at Jesus' feet and do His will.

Your brother in the battle for Jesus,

F. J. Crowder.

Eldorado, Ill.

Dear Brother Tomlinson:

Our tent meeting closed here Sunday night, Sept. 2.

We had a wonderful meeting. Quite a number were saved, sanctified and filled with the Holy Ghost.

There must have been seventy-five or eighty people definitely blessed. Fifty members were added to the church, making the total membership 243.

There were sixty-seven baptized in water. The saints shouted, talked in tongues and danced in the water.

The revival is still going on from house to house. Five received the Holy Ghost Monday and Monday night.

John O. Yates.

Bonham, Texas.

Dear Brother Tomlinson:

I am glad I am a member of the Church of God. I am still saved and sanctified and filled with the Holy Ghost.

My little girl has been very badly burned; I desire your prayers that she may be made perfectly well. We take the Lord for our healer, and she is doing very well so far.

Your brother,
J. W. Dodson.

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